United Nations S/2015/410

Security Council

Distr.: General
9 June 2015
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 5 June 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to convey to you the following information:

Since the outset of the crisis in Syria, the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic has consistently provided the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council with documented information regarding the Turkish Government's interference, sabotage and acts of aggression. The Turkish Government has provided direct and indirect support to armed terrorist groups, some of which are associated with the terrorist organization Al-Qaida. In so doing, it has flagrantly violated the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of international law and the counter-terrorism resolutions of the Security Council. Unfortunately, the Syrian Government has not received any response from any party in the United Nations regarding those irrefutable facts. By way of example, the following are some of those letters addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council:

- The identical letters dated 16 September 2012 (A/67/376-S/2012/709), which stated that the Turkish Government had received hundreds of tons of weapons from Libya and conveyed them to Al-Qaida members and jihadists in Syria;
- The identical letters dated 8 December 2012 (A/67/628-S/2012/917), which stated that Al-Qaida members were producing chemical weapons in a laboratory near the city of Gaziantep and threatening to use them against Syrian civilians;
- The identical letters dated 6 March 2013 (A/67/783-S/2013/137), which stated that the Libyan ship *Al Entisar* had entered the port of Iskenderun in early 2013 with special authorization from the Turkish Ministry of the Interior, carrying 400 tons of weapons intended for terrorists in Syria. The identical letters also drew attention to statements made by leaders of the terrorist groups to international news outlets on 27 February 2013, which stated that a consignment of weapons had reached Syria through Turkey the previous month, and had included shoulder-borne and other portable equipment, including anti-aircraft and armour-piercing weapons. The weapons were said to have been obtained legally and by regular means, not through smuggling corridors but formally through the Turkish border crossing of Bab al-Hawa;

- The identical letters dated 29 April (A/67/850-S/2013/253), which referred to the report of the Panel of Experts established pursuant to resolution 1973 (2011) concerning Libya (S/2013/99). The report stated that the Libyan ship *Al Entisar* had carried the largest consignment of weapons from Libya to Turkey, and that some 400 tons of materiel on board the ship had been transferred to the Syrian opposition;

- The identical letters dated 17 March 2014 (S/2014/195), which stated that one Haytham Salahuddin Qassab had transferred chemical substances from Turkey on behalf of the terrorist organization known as Ahrar al-Sham;

- The identical letters dated 21 March 2014 (A/68/810-S/2014/207), which described how Turkey had helped thousands of terrorists, extremists and mercenaries belonging to the Nusrah Front to infiltrate the Kassab area;

- The identical letters dated 14 April 2014 (A/68/846-S/2014/271), which referred to the investigative work of the American journalist Seymour Hersh, who had revealed that the Turkish Government was behind the chemical weapons attacks in the eastern Ghutah and Khan Asal, as well as other crimes.

In the same context, on 19 January 2014, the Turkish local police stopped trucks belonging to the Turkish intelligence services, which were heading into Syria, supposedly carrying humanitarian assistance. When the police carried out searches in the Adana and Iskenderun areas, pursuant to a warrant from the Turkish judiciary, it found weapons and ammunition that had been concealed in crates of medical supplies. The case prompted Erdoğan and his Government to launch a campaign of arrests against members of the judiciary and police force, who were thrown in prison. A total of 45 people were detained, including four public prosecutors. One of the four judges who were detained, Aziz Takçı, has said that over two thousand international haulage trucks containing rockets, missiles and bombs had been sent to Syria.

The Turkish newspaper *Cumhuriyet* has recently shown, using video evidence, that the trucks were indeed transporting weapons concealed in convoys supposedly carrying medical assistance. The weapons included mortars, which are used by terrorist groups in Syria for the indiscriminate shelling of civilian areas of Aleppo, Damascus and other cities. There were also rockets and weapons of various calibres.

After the scandal, the Erdoğan regime promptly prosecuted *Cumhuriyet*, ordering the Office of the Public Prosecutor to initiate emergency proceedings against the newspaper for publishing the video. The Erdoğan regime had long maintained that the trucks had been transporting humanitarian assistance for the Syrian people.

This was not the first such scandal to be uncovered by local Turkish media regarding the Turkish Government's involvement in shedding Syrian blood. In a leaked audio recording, the then Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ahmet Davutoğlu, along with four senior officials, including the then Chief of the Turkish Intelligence Agency, Hakan Fidan, discussed the possibility of manufacturing a pretext for a Turkish military strike on Syria. General Fidan suggested that four men could be sent into Syria to launch four rockets into an empty of land in Turkish territory, creating a pretext to attack Syria. The Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs has not denied the meeting or its contents. Rather, it stated that the recording had been manipulated and that the leak was a serious crime.

These facts represent only a tiny part of the Turkish Government's bare-faced interference in the internal affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic. Since the first day of the crisis in Syria, the Turkish Government has provided all forms of support to the armed terrorist groups.

Turkey has clearly, openly and persistently violated the principles and rules of international law and neighbourly relations and the counter-terrorism resolutions of the Security Council, particularly resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005), 1989 (2011), 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014) and 2199 (2015). The Security Council and its counter-terrorism committees must therefore act swiftly and decisively to prevent the Turkish Government from continuing in its course of action, which is tantamount to an act of aggression. It must compel the Turkish Government to desist from intervening in Syria's internal affairs, violating its sovereignty and attempting to break up Syria and undermine its national unity and territorial integrity. The Turkish Government must furthermore be compelled to control its borders and cease harbouring, training, financing and supporting armed terrorist groups, including Al-Qaida, as well as the Nusrah Front and other groups that cooperate with Al-Qaida. Those groups are using Turkish territory for safe haven and training and as a base of operations.

Certain parties in the Security Council continue to remain silent regarding those crimes. In so doing, they are supporting and participating in terrorism, and helping it to endure and proliferate. They are undermining Security Council resolutions 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014) and 2199 (2015), which were adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, and emptying them of any meaning. They are contributing to the shedding of Syrian blood, and providing political cover so that armed terrorist groups associated with Al-Qaida — groups that are trained and armed by Turkey — can continue to massacre the Syrian people.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations S/2015/411

Security Council

Distr.: General
5 June 2015

Original: English

Letter dated 3 June 2015 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), established pursuant to Security Council resolution 1528 (2004) and most recently extended by the Council in resolution 2162 (2014).

Following the usual consultations, I would like to inform you of my intention to appoint Major General Didier L'Hôte (France) as Force Commander of UNOCI. Major General L'Hôte will replace Major General Hafiz Masroor Ahmed (Pakistan), who will complete his tour of duty on 30 June 2015. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Major General Hafiz Masroor Ahmed for his contribution to UNOCI.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

15-09111 (E) 080615

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United Nations S/2015/412

Security Council

Distr.: General
5 June 2015

Original: English

Letter dated 5 June 2015 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 3 June 2015 (S/2015/411) concerning your intention to appoint Major General Didier L'Hôte (France) as Force Commander of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter.

(*Signed*) Ramlan Bin **Ibrahim**
President of the Security Council

15-09113 (E) 080615

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United Nations S/2015/413

Security Council

Distr.: General
9 June 2015

Original: English

United States of America: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, including resolution 1696 (2006), resolution 1737 (2006), resolution 1747 (2007), resolution 1803 (2008), 1835 (2008), 1887 (2009), 1929 (2010), 1984 (2011), 2049 (2012), 2105 (2013), and 2159 (2014), as well as the statement of its President of 29 March 2006 (S/PRST/2006/15), and reaffirming their provisions,

Recalling the creation, pursuant to paragraph 29 of resolution 1929 (2010), of a Panel of Experts, under the direction of the Committee, to carry out the tasks provided for by that paragraph,

Recalling the 7 November 2014 interim report by the Panel of Experts appointed by the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 29 of resolution 1929 (2010) and the 1 June 2015 final report (S/2015/401) by the Panel,

Recalling the methodological standards for reports of sanctions monitoring mechanisms contained in the Report of the Informal Working Group of the Security Council on General Issues of Sanctions (S/2006/997),

Welcoming the efforts made by the Secretariat to expand and improve the roster of experts for the Security Council Subsidiary Organs Branch, bearing in mind the guidance provided by the Note of the President (S/2006/997),

Emphasizing, in that regard, the importance of credible, fact-based, independent assessments, analysis, and recommendations, in accordance with the mandate of the Panel of Experts, as specified in paragraph 29 of resolution 1929 (2010),

Determining that proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, as well as their means of delivery, continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security,

Acting under Article 41 of Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Decides* to extend until 9 July 2016 the mandate of the Panel of Experts, as specified in paragraph 29 of resolution 1929 (2010), *expresses* its intent to review the mandate and take appropriate action regarding further extension no later than 9 June 2016, and *requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary administrative measures to this effect;

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2. *Requests* the Panel of Experts to provide to the Committee no later than 9 November 2015 a midterm report on its work, and further requests that, after a discussion with the Committee, the Panel of Experts submit to the Council its midterm report by 9 December 2015, and requests also a final report to the Committee by 9 May 2016 with its findings and recommendations, and *further requests* that, after a discussion with the Committee, the Panel of Experts submit to the Council its final report by 9 June 2016;

3. *Requests* the Panel of Experts to provide to the Committee a planned program of work no later than thirty days after the Panel's reappointment, *encourages* the Committee to engage in regular discussions about this program of work and to engage regularly with the Panel about its work, and further *requests* the Panel of Experts to provide to the Committee any updates to this program of work;

4. *Expresses* its intent to continue to follow the work of the Panel;

5. *Urges* all States, relevant United Nations bodies and other interested parties, to cooperate fully with the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006) and the Panel of Experts, in particular by supplying any information at their disposal on the implementation of the measures imposed by resolution 1737 (2006), resolution 1747 (2007), resolution 1803 (2008), and resolution 1929 (2010);

6. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

United Nations A/69/930–S/2015/414

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
11 June 2015
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Sixty-ninth session
Agenda items 17 (a), 19, 68 (b) and 69 (a)

Security Council
Seventieth year

Macroeconomic policy questions: international trade and development

Sustainable development

Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Identical letters dated 8 June 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to convey to you the position of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic regarding the recent decisions by the United States of America and the European Union to extend unilateral coercive economic measures against Syria for an additional year.

The United States administration and the European Union continue to ignore calls from within Syria and from the international community and United Nations entities, all of them stressing the urgent need to help Syrians to overcome their current troubles and strengthen their capacity to withstand the vicious terrorist onslaught against their lives, livelihoods, civilization, and social and cultural fabric. On 6 May 2015, the United States administration extended its unilateral coercive economic measures against Syria for an additional year. Those measures were initially imposed on Syria by the previous administration in 2003. They have targeted a number of vital sectors in Syria, including health, trade, banking, financial transactions, the private sector and the import of spare parts for passenger planes. The Foreign Affairs Council of the European Union also extended its

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unilateral coercive economic measures, which it imposed in 2011, for an additional year through 1 June 2016. The European measures also affect sectors that are vital for Syrians' needs and livelihoods and for development, the creation of decent jobs and maintenance of the country's economy. Those areas include oil, electricity, health, trade, banking and the private sector.

By continuing to adopt such illegal policies, the European Union and the United States have given clear proof of the following points:

1. They have no respect for the authority of the United Nations or its Charter. The latter prohibits such measures, which reach beyond the territorial borders of Member States to threaten the sovereignty of other States. They set no store by United Nations resolutions, in particular General Assembly resolution 68/200, which prohibits the imposition of such measures because of their negative impact on sustainable development and trade in the targeted States, and General Assembly resolution 69/180, which calls for the immediate cessation of any economic, financial or trade measures against developing States because they hinder the well-being and full enjoyment of human rights of the populations of those States, in particular women and children. The American and European sides also are also deliberately ignoring United Nations reports that have confirmed clearly the catastrophic impact of such measures on the livelihoods and well-being of Syrians and on their country's economy, including reports from the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

2. American and European claims of wanting to help Syrians and provide for their humanitarian needs during the current crisis are contradicted by the actual facts, which demonstrate clearly that the American and European sides are deliberately inflaming the situation in Syria and exacerbating the deterioration of living conditions for Syrians. Their unilateral coercive economic measures are aimed at the very Syrian national capacities, resources and institutions that are required to meet the needs of citizens and implement humanitarian response plans and development plans. Indeed, the American and European measures go against United Nations resolutions, including Security Council resolution 2139 (2014). Those resolutions all urge stakeholders to support a humanitarian response for Syrians, instead of placing economic obstacles in their path or worsening their conditions in order to pressure them into making different choices.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic condemns the American and European decisions to extend unilateral coercive economic measures against Syria for an additional year. It considers those measures to be a blatant effort to inflame the situation in Syria and cause the already difficult living conditions of the Syrian people to deteriorate even further. Those decisions reflect one aspect of the misguided approach being taken by the United States and Europe to the situation in Syria. Worst of all, the United States and the European countries have for many years denied the terrorist threat to Syria and the region. Some of those countries are implicated in sponsoring terrorism themselves; others merely turn a blind eye while regional governments do so. The Syrian Government calls on the free voices among the States members of the European Union to put a stop to the hostile approach of the Governments of France and Britain, which violates the resolutions of the General Assembly; Security Council resolutions 2139 (2014), 1624 (2005), 1989

(2011), 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014) and 2199 (2015); international law, international humanitarian law and international human rights law; and European principles and values.

The Syrian Arab Republic stresses that any talk by the United States of America and the European Union about stepping up humanitarian assistance to Syrians is no more than empty rhetoric, and proof of public hypocrisy campaigns whose actual effect is to expose Syrians to all forms of danger. The Syrian Government holds those States responsible for the worsening humanitarian conditions in Syria, which stem from their ongoing sponsorship of armed terrorist groups and from certain European States' efforts to burnish the groups' image through various forms of direct and indirect support.

Notwithstanding all the fraudulent claims and systematic disinformation, and despite the enormous negative impact of the European and American unilateral coercive economic measures imposed on the Government and people of Syria, the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic continues to provide over 80 per cent of the humanitarian assistance reaching its citizens. It is fulfilling all of its responsibilities with respect to shelter, food, transportation, medicine, health, education and energy for its citizens, who are victims of terrorism and of the European and American unilateral coercive economic measures.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter issued as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 17 (a), 19, 68 (b) and 69 (a), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations S/2015/415

Security Council

Distr.: General
23 April 2015

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the representative of France on the Security Council

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that he has received a letter dated 22 April 2015 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations stating that Mr. Patrick Kanner will represent France at the 7432nd meeting of the Security Council, to be held on 23 April 2015.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, that letter constitutes adequate provisional credentials.

15-09208 (E) 090615

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United Nations S/2015/416

Security Council

Distr.: General
24 April 2015

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the alternate representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the Security Council

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that he has received a letter dated 25 June 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations stating that Ms. Helen Mulvein has been appointed alternate representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the Security Council.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, that letter constitutes adequate provisional credentials.

15-09314 (E) 100615

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United Nations A/ES-10/680–S/2015/417

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
10 June 2015

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Seventieth year

Identical letters dated 9 June 2015 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

On 5 June 2015, the Palestinian people sombrely marked the forty-eighth year of the Israeli military occupation. As this belligerent foreign occupation of our land and subjugation of our people inconceivably approaches a half-century of duration, we call upon the international community to affirm the illegality of the Israeli occupation, a cruel and devastating occupation that has gravely violated every provision of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949 (Fourth Geneva Convention), the international humanitarian law governing situations of foreign occupation. That law stipulates that occupation is a temporary, not indefinite, situation imposed to facilitate the unlawful oppression by the occupying Power and its forced displacement of the occupied civilian population and the colonization and de facto annexation of the occupied land.

After nearly five decades of the Israeli military occupation of the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip since 1967, the time is long overdue for the international community, including the Security Council, to unequivocally demand that the occupation be ended forthwith in all its manifestations and to act collectively and responsibly to ensure this outcome. The obligations of the international community in this regard, as well as towards enabling the realization of the long-denied inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including those of self-determination and independence, and the attainment of a just, lasting and peaceful solution to the question of Palestine in all aspects, are very clearly based on international law, the principles of justice and equity and the relevant United Nations resolutions. In this respect, we underscore the abiding relevance of the Madrid principles and the Arab Peace Initiative, and the need for their swift implementation to achieve a comprehensive, durable and just peace.

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These objectives have become more urgent, not less, with the passing of the decades and the accumulation of wrongs perpetrated by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people and the consequent trampling of human rights and thrashing of the credibility, primacy and efficacy of international law and the international system, including, in particular, the Security Council. While these laws continue to be gravely, systematically and grossly breached by Israel, it has appallingly never been held accountable and has been permitted to act with absolute impunity as a State above the law without consequence, with devastating impact on the Palestinian people and the compounding of this injustice and conflict with each passing day, making the prospects for peace ever more elusive.

The most recent glaring example in this regard is the failure to list Israel as a violator of children's rights in the annual report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict, notwithstanding the fact that it so clearly meets the criteria. We fear that this regrettable failure to hold Israel to the same standards to which all other States are held will only further undermine the credibility of the United Nations system and the children and armed conflict mechanism, which is intended to protect children in situations of armed conflict, and further embolden the impunity of Israel, resulting in more suffering, trauma and grief for innocent Palestinian children and their families.

The fact is that Israel, the occupying Power, has not for a minute ceased its illegal policies and measures in Occupied Palestine, including East Jerusalem. Notwithstanding the repeated appeals and calls by the international community, including in the context of United Nations resolutions, Israel not only continues but also has intensified and broadened the scope and scale of its violations, with grave consequences. Instead of acting in good faith to end this illegal occupation, Israel continues to deliberately cause more suffering for the Palestinian people and to entrench its occupation and destroy the contiguity and viability of the Palestinian land and the prospects for realizing the two-State solution for peace.

This is evidenced in the military aggression in the Gaza Strip over the past year, where the Israeli occupying forces killed, injured and maimed thousands of Palestinian civilians, including children, women and older persons, and caused wanton and massive destruction to homes and vital civilian infrastructure, in addition to the continued imposition of a crippling, dehumanizing and illegal blockade. This is also evidenced in the deteriorating situation in the West Bank, where settlement colonization and land grab activities of Israel have continued non-stop, including the forced displacement of thousands more Palestinians, primarily Bedouin families, in particular, in the areas of Occupied East Jerusalem and the Jordan Valley; the confiscation of huge tracts of land and the destruction of hundreds more Palestinian homes and properties to facilitate the expansion of Israeli settlements and the wall; the continuing detention, arrest, imprisonment and torture of thousands of Palestinian civilians, including children; and the unrelenting violence, terror and provocations by extremist Israeli settlers, including towards holy sites, especially the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

We will continue to document these Israeli crimes in our determined pursuit of accountability. Accordingly, I intend to follow up the present letter with a brief review of the grave breaches perpetrated in the recent period by Israel, the occupying Power, as part of this ongoing criminal record. After nearly 50 years of occupation and nearly 70 years since Al-Nakba, we will not relent in our calls and

efforts to uphold international law and protect our people towards the realization of justice, the fulfilment of their inalienable rights and legitimate national aspirations, including to independence in a State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, and the attainment of a comprehensive and lasting peace that we have for so long sought and that is so urgently needed for both regional and international peace and security. We call upon the international community, including the Security Council, to respond to the appeals of the Palestinian people and their leadership at this critical moment in time.

The present letter is in follow-up to our 543 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 11 May 2015 (A/ES-10/679-S/2015/327), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed against the Palestinian people. Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations

United Nations S/2015/418

Security Council

Distr.: General
17 June 2015
English
Original: Arabic

Identical letters dated 9 June 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to convey to you my Government's rejection of the false allegations made in the letter from the Qatari regime issued as document S/2015/332. Those allegations are part of a desperate attempt to put a good face on its activities in support of terrorism by distorting the facts. They seek to distract the attention of the Member States of the United Nations as a whole, and the Security Council in particular, from the fact that the Qatari regime is directly sponsoring armed terrorist groups in order to intimidate the Syrian people and undermine the security and stability of the Syrian State. Here are a few facts that demonstrate that Qatar is directly implicated in spilling the blood of Syrians and supporting terrorism:

- It is preposterous that the Qatari regime should be among the States that send identical letters against Syria to the Security Council and the Secretary-General. Its letters are full of misinformation and turn the facts on their heads, especially when they claim that Syria is using chemical weapons against its people. The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons has confirmed that Syria has implemented its obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention in full cooperation with that Organization's Technical Secretariat. The allegations in the Qatari letter are all the more ridiculous given that Syria is the party that requested an investigation into the use of chlorine gas against innocent civilians by armed terrorist groups in the cities and villages of Syria. The position taken by Qatari officials and others is a veiled defence of their declared allies, which include the Nusrah Front, Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and other terrorist groups associated with Al-Qaida. Available information suggests that the Governments of Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and other countries are the ones supplying the terrorists with toxic chemicals in order to malign and defame the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic.

- Qatari media institutions and outlets are conducting propaganda and publicity campaigns on behalf of the armed terrorist groups that are active in Syrian territory, and defending them fervently. On Wednesday, 27 May 2015, the Al-Jazeera network's programme "Without Limits" had on an individual named Abu Mohammed al-Jawlani, the commander of the so-called Nusrah Front, who is on the list established and maintained by the Al-Qaida Sanctions

Committee. The interview was designed to promote terrorism and terrorist organizations, and further threaten the Government and people of Syria. His appearance on a broadcast network is just one more piece of conclusive evidence of the organic relationship and close cooperation among that terrorist organization, the Al-Jazeera network and the Qatari owners of the network. The latter is a mouthpiece for the ruling family of Qatar, which sets its inflammatory editorial policies. The conduct of the interview was a shameful violation of Security Council counter-terrorism resolutions, notably Security Council resolution 1624 (2005), which prohibits incitement to terrorism.

- On 11 May 2015, in an interview with the French newspaper *Le Monde* in the capital of a State that is a permanent member of the Security Council, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Qatari regime said that he considered cooperation with the Nusrah Front and its amorphous affiliate terrorist groups to be an unavoidable reality. We quote from the interview: "We are against any extremism. However, all these groups, with the exception of ISIL, are fighting to topple the regime. The moderates cannot say to the Nusrah Front: 'Stay at home, we won't work with you.' One has to consider the situation on the ground and be realistic". That declaration from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Qatari regime amounts to a frank admission from the diplomatic chief of the Qatari regime that it is supporting and cooperating with the terrorist Nusrah Front, in a blatant violation of Security Council counter-terrorism resolutions, in particular Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001), 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014) and 2199 (2015).

- The letter of the Permanent Representative of the Qatari regime refers to what it calls mediation efforts. The Syrian Government wishes to point out that the Qatari Government institutions stand apart from their counterparts around the world in their willingness to engage numerous terrorist groups, including Al-Qaida and the Nusrah Front, in mediation efforts for the release of hostages and abductees held by the groups, including members of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, in Syria and in other parts of the world. The Qatari regime's alacrity in engaging in such mediation efforts and guaranteeing ransom payments of millions of dollars confirms that it is in close contact and coordination with the groups, and is using such situations as a means of openly funding them.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic calls on the United Nations and, in particular, the Security Council, to take immediate measures against the Qatari regime with regard to its support for armed terrorist groups in Syria — groups that have committed barbaric and bloody crimes against the Syrian State and people — and to hold accountable those responsible, in accordance with Security Council counter-terrorism resolutions, in particular the five resolutions mentioned above.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations S/2015/419

Security Council

Distr.: General
12 June 2015

Original: English

Letter dated 10 June 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Burundi to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to submit to you a press release by the Government of Burundi regarding the measures taken by the Government to prepare the fair and transparent elections of 2015 (see annex).

I kindly request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a working document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Albert **Shingiro**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 10 June 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Burundi to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: French]

Communiqué of the Government of Burundi dated 8 June 2015

Following the Summit of Heads of State of the East African Community held on 31 May 2015in Dar es Salaam, and with a view to continuing preparations for free, calm, credible and transparent elections in 2015, the Government of the Republic of Burundi has the honour to inform the nation and the international community of the following.

As part of efforts to reduce tensions, the Government reiterates its firm commitment to the full implementation, in good faith, of the conditions agreed at the Summit.

The Government reminds those who called for violent demonstrations that they should comply with the obligation to cancel them of their own accord, as requested by the aforementioned Summit.

The Government agrees not to serve arrest warrants against the organizers of violent demonstrations.

Regarding the disarming of allegedly armed youth groups affiliated with political parties, the Government has the honour to announce that it has instructed the National Disarmament Commission to fully devote itself to recovering all weapons held illegally by the population, and advised it to submit a report within two weeks. For that goal to be achieved, the Government calls upon all political parties, without exception, all civil society organizations, civil servants and the people at large to contribute to this effort to ensure that the elections take place under the best possible conditions.

The Government reaffirms its commitment to a controlled electoral process. It is therefore committed to ensuring the safety of political leaders before, during and after the elections, and remains at their disposal regarding the technical arrangements needed to fulfil that commitment. Once their locations have been reported, security forces will be deployed to provide them with the safest possible surroundings.

With respect to the media, the Government welcomes the fact that the parties to the dialogue have already agreed that they should resume their operations during the election campaign. The Government is committed to the full and prompt implementation of this measure.

The Government has already sought to build trust among political partners by consulting opposition political parties for suggestions to replace two former members of the National Independent Electoral Commission. The Government hopes to receive the names of the new commissioners in the next few hours.

The Government welcomes the gradual and orderly return of refugees and is considering, as it has in the past, sending delegations to host countries to discuss arrangements for their voluntary return.

In this regard, the Government reiterates its request that countries and organizations hosting refugees should facilitate the repatriation of refugees wishing to return to Burundi.

Finally, the Government of the Republic of Burundi remains prepared to do whatever it takes to ensure that the 2015 elections take place under the best possible conditions.

Bujumbura, 8 June 2015
Philippe **Nzobonariba**
Secretary General and spokesman of the Government